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Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08
NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05
SAS-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 /140 W
----------002838 071814Z /11
O 071737Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7871
INFO USDOEHQ WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 VIENNA 08059

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT, NRC, ACDA FOR HOUCK, OES/NET FOR BORIGHT
DOE PASS AMMONS, IA AND BARTELS, SS

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, IAEA, TECH
SUBJECT: ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN IAEA SAFEGUARDS: SSAC'S

REF: STATE 223400

1. PER PARA 2 REFTEL, MISOFF AND I DISCUSSED PROPOSALS OUTLINED REFTEL WITH ASSISTANT DIR GEN FISCHER.

2. FISCHER'S REACTION TO PARA 1A WAS THAT ANYTHING THAT COULD BE DONE TO UPGRADE STATES SYSTEMS OF ACCOUNTANCY AND CONTROL (SSAC'S) WOULD BE DESIRABLE, AND IF USG COULD ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES PROPOSED, THAT WOULD BE FINE. IAEA WOULD BE PLEASED TO HEAR USG VIEWS ON WAYS IAEA MIGHT ASSIST IN PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE SPECIFIC SSAC'S AND, IF THE STATES INVOLVED REQUESTED IT, IAEA WOULD TRY TO PROVIDE SUCH ASSISTANCE.
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3. PROBLEM FISCHER SAW WAS THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD WORK ONLY FOR THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH WERE OPEN AND RECEPTIVE TO A US INITIATIVE ALONG THESE LINES, I.E. THOSE WHO BOTH (A) RECOGNIZED THEY HAD A NEED TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SSAC AND (B) WANTED USG (OR OTHERS) TO HELP THEM. FISCHER PRESUMED THERE ARE SUCH COUNTRIES, BUT, ON THE OTHER

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HAND, HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THERE WOULD BE SEVERAL COUNTRIES WHICH WOULD STRONGLY REJECT ONE OR BOTH OF THESE POINTS. THESE COUNTRIES ARE IN FACT LIKELY TO BE THE ONES WITH WHICH IAEA HAS MOST TROUBLE.

4. MISSION COMMENTS. PROPOSAL IN PARA 1A OF REFTEL USES TERMS "MUTUAL INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE" AND "EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON RESPECTIVE SSAC'S". SEEMS TO US THAT INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS APPROACHED BY USG MAY WONDER HOW "MUTUAL" OR BALANCED SUCH EXCHANGES CAN BE IN TERMS OF GIVE AND TAKE, GIVEN THE MAGNITUDE OF EXPERIENCE AND RESOURCES OF THE USG'S SSAC. COUCHING OUR PROPOSAL TO THEM IN THESE TERMS MAY ROUSE SUSPICIONS OF OUR MOTIVES. PROPOSAL ALSO SPEAKS OF "ADEQUATE SSAC'S" AND "SATISFACTORY LEVEL". WE NOTE THAT THERE ARE BOUND TO BE DISAGREEMENTS AS TO THE DEFINITION OF "ADEQUATE" AND "SATISFACTORY" AND THAT THESE DISAGREEMENTS MAY BE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE LARGER AND MORE POLITICAL PROBLEM OF THE STATE'S VIEW OF WHAT IAEA SAFEGUARDS SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE. END COMMENTS.

5. FISCHER'S REACTION TO IDEAS IN PARA 1B AND C OF REFTEL WAS MIXED. HE LIKED THE IDEA OF THE DIR GEN ANNOUNCING HIS INTENT TO TAKE TIMELY AND DIRECT INITIATIVE IN SETTING UP MECHANISM FOR SOLVING SPECIFIC SAFEGUARDS PROBLEMS. HE WILL TRY TO GET THE DIR GEN TO ANNOUNCE THIS INTENT
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AT THE FORTHCOMING BOARD MEETING. HE FELT, HOWEVER, THAT THE QUESTION OF THE DIR GEN IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS (AND POSSIBLY PROBLEM COUNTRIES) TO INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS OR TO THE BOARD WOULD HAVE TO BE HANDLED VERY CAREFULLY DUE TO THE GREAT SENSITIVITY OF MANY GOVERNMENTS ON THIS ISSUE. HE FELT IT WOULD BE BEST TO SEE THE REACTION OF THE BOARD TO THE DIR GEN ANNOUNCEMENT SUGGESTED ABOVE AND THEN PROCEED WITH FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH US ON ADDITIONAL STEPS.

6. FISCHER NOTED THAT THERE IS MOVEMENT IN THIS DIRECTION ALREADY, E.G. THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSION AT A BOARD MEETING WITHIN THE PAST YEAR OF THE SITUATION IN CANADA AND OF THE JOINT IAEA/CANADIAN EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM (SEE PARAS 73-82 OF GOV/OR/505 REGARDING THE BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 27, 1977). THIS, OF COURSE, WAS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE WILLINGNESS OF THE COUNTRY INVOLVED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER OPENLY. PERHAPS IF MORE COUNTRIES ADOPT THIS ATTITUDE, THE AGENCY CAN EVENTUALLY EMPLOY THE SUGGESTIONS BEING MADE (IN SECOND HALF OF PARA 1B AND PARA 1C OF REFTEL). HE ALSO POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANT PRECEDENTS ALONG THESE LINES BEING ESTABLISHED

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BY THE DIR GEN'S REPORTING OF THE EURATOM SITUATION.

7. ACCORDING TO FISCHER, THE DIR GEN WOULD IN ALL CASES FIRST WANT TO TRY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM IN DIRECT BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN THE IAEA AND THE COUNTRY INVOLVED, BEFORE BRINGING IT TO THE BOARD. WE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH FISCHER ON HIS PLAN TO ADD ITEM TO DIR GEN REPORT TO BOARD AS NOTED PARA 2 ABOVE, BUT WILL AWAIT GUIDANCE

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ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
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O 071737Z SEP 78 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7872
INFO USDOEHQ WASHBO IMMEDIATE
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 08059

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y-TEXT (WORD "THIS" ADDED)

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT, NRC, ACDA FOR HOUCK, OES/NET FOR BORIGHT
DOE PASS AMMONS, IA AND BARTELS, SS

BEFORE TAKING ANY OTHER ACTION ON THIS. KIRK

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TAGS: ENRG, TECH, IAEA
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Type: TE
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